





NOTICE.

THIS Undertaking, having become LESSEE of the "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS" and the Business connected therewith, will conduct the same on his own account from this date.  
B. CHATTERTON WALCOTT.  
Daily Press Office,  
Hongkong, 1st January, 1878.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO.  
FAMILY AND DISPENSING  
CHEMISTS.  
By Appointment to His Excellency the GOVERNOR and His Royal Highness the DUKE OF EDINBURGH.  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS.  
PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS.  
DURGISTS' SUPPLIERS.  
AND  
AERATED WATER MAKERS.  
SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS FITTED.  
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

Notice.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. WATSON & CO., or  
HONGKONG DISPENSARY. (17)

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.  
Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to the Editor or Manager. Correspondents are requested to forward their names and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

The religious persecution which has broken out in the Hwei-chow prefecture of Kwangtung province is probably the worst of the kind. This class is the most intemperate hostile to the Christian religion and never loses a chance of vilifying or persecuting its professors. The convert to Christianity in China usually has a good deal to put up with, but it is not often that his enemies go the length of taking his life. In this case a great deal of most violent animosity seems to have been displayed against the Christians of Hwei-chow, culminating in the murder of two of them. The leaders of the mob evidently knew that this act of violence would bring them into trouble, and they endeavored to conceal their crime. The district authorities may not feel disposed to take much pains in punishing murderers, but the matter has been brought to the notice of the British Consul at Swatow, who will call upon them to carry out the stipulations of the treaty and afford protection to the native Christians. Clause VIII. of the Treaty of Tientsin runs as follows:—The Christian religion, as professed by Protestants or Roman Catholics, insulates the practice of virtue, and teaches man to do as he would be done by. Persons teaching it, or professing it, therefore, shall be entitled to the protection of the Chinese Authorities, nor shall any such persons be persecuted or interfered with. The local native officials will consequently be compelled to make full inquiry into this savage outrage and bring the murderers to justice. It is to be hoped, however, that the instigators of the persecution will not escape while the probably ignorant instruments are made to pay the penalty of their misdeeds. Too often in China the wrong parties are punished, especially when the offenders are able to distribute a few bribes in a judicious manner. The Chinese Government is rather apathetic in the matter of the persecution of native Christians, and it is to be feared they would fare badly but for the presence of foreign Consuls in China and the protection afforded by them. The hostility to Christianity in China, we suspect, arises rather from an antipathy to foreigners by whom it was introduced than from religious intolerance.

From the Customs Returns of Trade at the Treaty Port it appears that, of the ports recently opened to foreign trade, Wuhu and Kiungchow (Hobow) are the only ones in which business is done to any appreciable extent. At Ichang and Pakhoi the returns for the first quarter of the present year are absolutely nil, there having been neither entrances nor clearances at either of these ports. The absence of trade from both ports is explained by the existence of a powerful combination of the wealthier traders of the port, who are also large junk-owners, and who, in order to protect their vested interests, refuse to do business with anyone who ships goods for foreign steamers. It is said that the trade to and from the port is sufficient to furnish cargoes to two small steamers per week, but at present it is monopolized by the junks. At Ichang during the three months previous steamers entered and cleared the port and from Hongkong and Hainan. Of sailing vessels only one entered from Bangkok, and none cleared. Of the traffic carried by the steamers a very considerable portion is of course destined for the country living between the Coast and the West River, for which Pakhoi is the natural distributing centre, and the expense and delay of transshipment by junk rendered necessary by the conservative policy of the Pakhoi traders and junk owners are much to be regretted. The present condition of things, however, cannot last very long, and ultimately steam must assert its supremacy over the antiquated junk. The tonnage entering the port of Hobow during the quarter was 9,239, as compared with 8,550 in the corresponding quarter of last year, a very satisfactory increase. At Wenchow two steamers entered and cleared and two sailing vessels. At Wuhu 132 steamers entered and cleared the port, of which eighty were river steamers representing a tonnage of 70,972, and 61 Chinese-owned steamers representing a tonnage of 4,000. The increase in the tonnage of the port generally may be regarded as satisfactory.

The Steamer, "C. Captain William B. Grant, left Singapore on the 6th instant for this port.

The British steamer "City of Santiago," Captain James Polaris, was advertised to leave London about the 25th ultimo for Hongkong.

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CHINESE MASSACRE IN KASHGAR. A correspondence of the "Globe" from St. Petersburg, reports that most distressing accounts have been received from Central Asia of the sufferings experienced by Kashgarians, fugitives from the Russian army, and who are now being driven into the mountains of the Pamirs.

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## POST-OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS

A MAIL WILL CLOSE.

For Amoy, Taiwan, and Tamsui.—Per *Taiwan*, to-day, the 11th inst., at 11.30 A.M.  
For Bangkok.—Per *Danube*, to-day, the 11th inst., at 2.30 P.M.  
For Shanghai.—Per *Yangtze*, to-day, the 11th inst., at 3.30 P.M.  
For Saigon.—Per *Quarta*, to-day, the 11th inst., at 5 P.M.

For Labuan.—To-day, the 11th instant,  
5 P.M.  
For Swatow, Amoy, and Foochow. P  
Kwangtung, to-morrow, the 12th instant,  
11.30 A.M.  
For Keelung and Foochow.—Per *Caldera*,  
Thursday, the 13th instant, at 11.30 A.M.  
For Yokohama and Niogo.—Per *Mikado*,  
Friday, the 14th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Cocktown, Sydney, and Melbourne.—P  
Ocean, on Saturday, the 15th inst., at 11.30 A.  
For Straits Settlements and Calcutta.—P  
Moray and Arratoon. Sails, on Saturday, t  
15th instant, at 2.30 P.M.

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**MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET**

The English Contract Packet "THIBET" will be despatched with the Mails for Europe &c., on SATURDAY, the 15th instant.

The following will be the hours of closing the Mails, &c. :—

FRIDAY, 14th instant.

5 P.M., Money Order Office closes.

6 P.M., Post Office closes except the NIGHT BOAT.

which remains open all night.  
SATURDAY, 15th instant,  
7 A.M., Post Office opens for sale of Stamp  
Registry of Letters, and Posting of all cor-  
respondences.  
10 A.M., Post Office closes except for Late Let-  
ters. Registry of Letters ceases.  
10.15 A.M., Letters may be posted on payment  
of 1/2 p. on 15th instant.

11 A.M., when the Post Office CLOSES entirely.  
11.30 A.M., Letters (but Letters only) addressed to the United Kingdom *via* Brindisi, or Singapore, may be posted on board the Paoli with Late Fee of 48 cents extra postage, until  
11.50 A.M., when the Mail is finally closed.

The French Contract Packet, "YANGTSE" will be despatched from Hongkong on SATURDAY, the 22nd June, with Mails to and from the following Ports, viz. through the United Kingdom and Europe via Marseilles, to Saigon, Singapore, Batavia, Galle, Pondicherry, Madras, Calcutta, Bombay, Aden, Suez, and Alexandria.

FRIDAY, 21st instant,  
5 P.M., Money Order Office closes. Post Office closes except the Night Box, which remains open all night.  
SATURDAY, 22nd instant,  
7 A.M., Post Office opens for sale of Steam Receipts of Letters and Postage of all orders.

10 A.M., Registry of Letters ceases.  
11 A.M., Post Office closes except for Late Letters.  
11.10 A.M., Letters (but Letters only) may be posted on payment of a Late Fee of 13 cents extra postage, until  
11.30 A.M., when the Post Office CLOSSES.

To provide means of remitting small sums of money to or from this Colony and between the Ports of China and Japan, the Postmasters and Agents of this Office will in future be allowed (but not required) to purchase Hongkong Postage Stamps from foreign residents.

The Stamps tendered for sale must not exceed \$25 in value, must be perfectly clear, in good condition, and in strips of at least two or separate Stamps will be purchased. The Stamps must be presented personally or accompanied by a person authorized to act for the owner.

Letters containing Stamps should be registered, and the Stamps should be secured for observation.

COMMUNICATION WITH BATAVIA.

The Netherlands India Packets leave Singapore fortnightly, and are fitted to the arrival.

of the outward P. & O. Mail from Europe.  
The French Packets for Batavia wait at  
Singapore for the Packet from China, and  
fortnightly. •  
It follows that, to forward Correspondence  
to Batavia with the least delay, the follow-  
ing are the best opportunities:—  
In the S.W. Monsoon.  
The French Mail

The English Mail.  
The French Mail.

In the N.E. Monsoon,  
A Private Steamer a few days before  
English Mail.  
The French Mail.

Many boxes of letters are received at the F

Office not sealed, that is to say, the box fastened with sealing wax, but there is no impression of a seal.

The attention of boxholders is called to necessity of carefully sealing such boxes with some recognisable seal, and of sending a check book or receipt with them. The omission of the latter precaution leaves a doubt as to whether the box is really sealed.

The attention of owners, agents, and charterers of steamers is drawn to the provisions of the Post Office Ordinance, 1876, which comes in

Under the old Ordinance no notice was required of the departure of a vessel if not advertised, nor of departures for Canton or Macao. Notice is now required of any departure, though with regard to sailing ships, the old rule was practically remain in force, that notice need not be sent unless asked for.

In the case of steamers plying regularly or fixed days, notice of any change in the day, hour will be sufficient.

of calling the attention of firms to the fact that many such words as Despatches will close at A.M., added to the advertisement of a vessel as illegal. Consignees' letters are exempted by law from passing through the Post Office, but a person is allowed to make collection of such letters for transmission under a penalty of £10 per week during which the practice continued.

**PATTERNS.**  
Some difficulty is experienced in obtaining general understanding of *what is a Pattern*. It is a *bona fide* sample of goods which the sender has for sale, or of goods which he wishes to order. It is to consist of the smallest possible quantity compatible with showing what the

Most countries to which Hongkong forward Correspondence having joined the General Postal Union or being probably about to do so it is necessary that the following rules be strictly observed.

if it contains gold or silver money, jewels, precious articles, or anything that, as a general rule, is liable to Customs duties.

2.—This Regulation prohibits the sending of flammable articles, unless the quantity sent be so small as to make the sample of no value.

3.—The limits of weight allowed are as follows:

BOOKS AND PAPERS.—To British Offices, 51.  
PATTERNS.—5lb., if without intrinsic value.  
BOOKS AND PAPERS.—To the Continent, &  
2lb.  
PATTERNS.—8 oz.  
45.—The following articles cannot be sent by  
Post at all.—Glass, Liquids, Gunpowder

whenever it is dangerous to the Mails or offensive or injurious to persons dealing with them.

**PARCELS.**

The public is reminded that there is not much thing as Parcel Post to Europe. Much trouble and disappointment is caused by persistent attempts to send small valuable trifles through the Post. Fine Curies, Articles of

Dress, Fancy Work, and similar presents are continually being refused, the senders having often spent more in Postage than would have paid the freight by steamer. No refund can be made on such parcels of the value of Stamps obliterated before the nature of the contents are discovered.

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